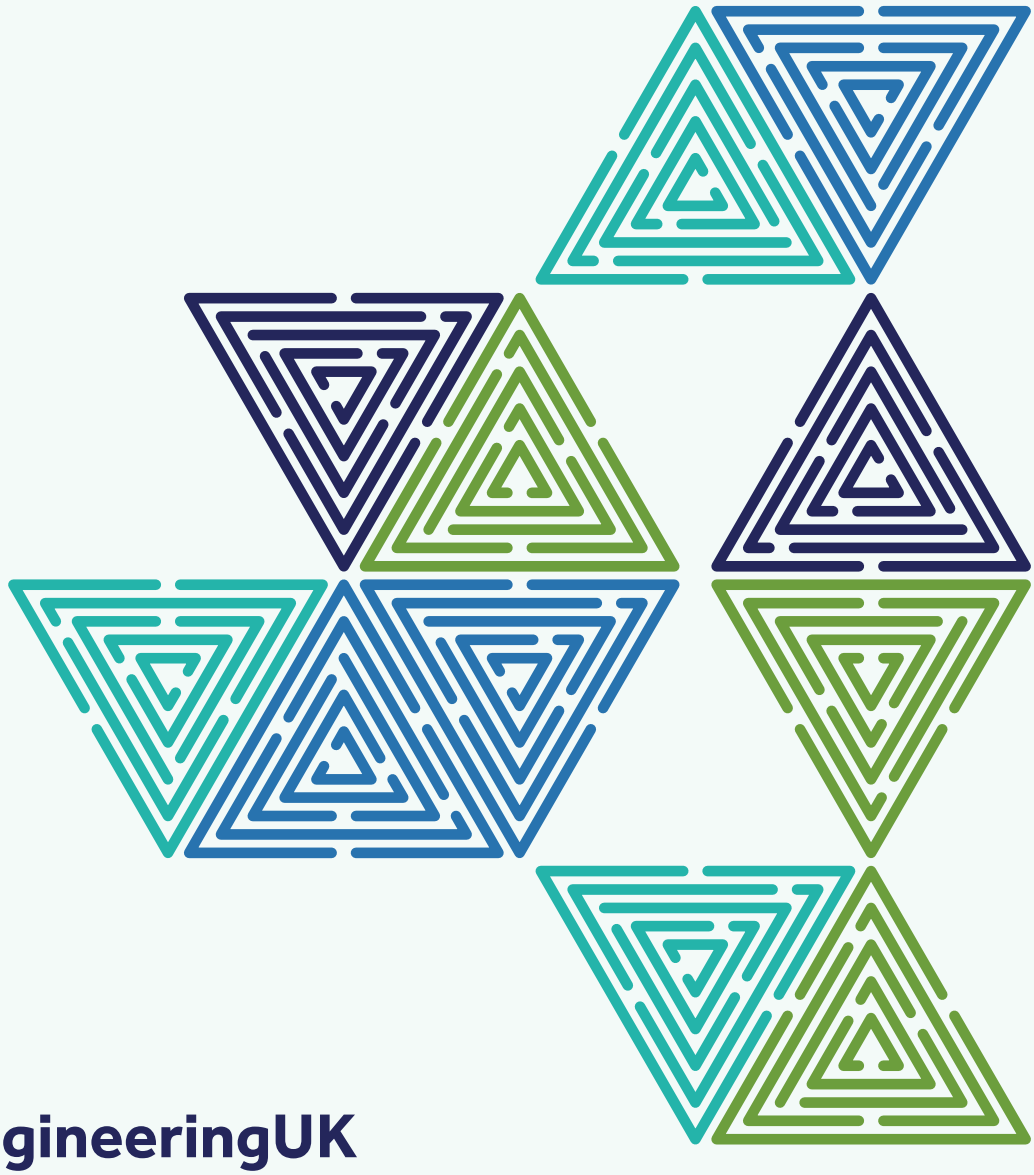
T LEVEL RESULTS

August 2025



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Introduction

The first two-year T Level courses launched in 2020, with the first results in August 2022. Three courses were on offer in year 1[1], 10 courses in year 2[2], 16 courses in year 3[3], and this year, the fourth year of T Levels, a total of 18 T Level courses were available[4].

Similarly to previous years, a large number of students started their T Level courses in 2023 but did not complete the qualification. There were 16,085 enrolments in 2023[5] and 11,909 of these received their results in August 2025. This means that 26% of students who enrolled in 2023 have not completed their T Level. This is similar to the drop-out rates we see for other large VTQs, but larger than for those taking A levels[6]. This also means that the drop-out rate is improving year-on-year – this was 33% in 2023 and 29% in 2024. While it is positive to see a decline in the attrition rate, this does still mean a number of young people without a level 3 qualification at 18.

The relative newness of T Levels likely explains at least part of the attrition rate, especially as new courses have come online each year since the 2020 launch. There has been some conjecture that the difficulty of securing the mandatory industry placement may be causing some to drop out of their course. However, in positive findings from 2025, only 3.7% of those getting their results had not completed the placement; 4.7% for those getting engineering and technology-related results. A further 1.6% of engineering and technology-related students received a 'completed with special consideration' for their industry placement – meaning they had completed enough of the qualification but could not finish it due to reasons beyond their control.

As T Levels are rolled out, their content, assessment and quality are being reviewed on an ongoing basis. As part of the review into level 3 qualifications reform, government announced that new enrolments onto the Onsite Construction T Level will cease[7]. Uptake has been limited, and there is a reported lack of demand for a large level 3 qualification in this area. Students and providers have other vocational and technical qualifications available to them to support pathways into this key sector. The September 2024 entrants are the final cohort, and will receive their results in August 2026.

Results for other level 3 vocational and technical qualifications were also released, but due to the way the data is published it is not possible to do the analysis we would like on the engineering and technology-related courses at this time. The data is released in more detail to allow this later in the year.

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[1] 3 T Level courses launched in 2020 with first results in 2022: Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction; Digital Production, Design and Development; and Education and Early Years.
[2] 7 additional courses launched in 2021 with first results in 2023: Building Services Engineering for Construction; Digital Business Services; Digital Support and Services; Health; Healthcare Science; Onsite Construction; and Science.
[3] 6 additional courses launched in 2022 with first results in 2024: Accounting; Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing; Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control; Finance; Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing; and Management and Administration
[4] 2 additional courses launched in 2023 with first results in 2025: Agriculture, Land Management and Production; and Legal Services
[5] https://feweek.co.uk/dfe-launch-t-level-reviews-amid-worrying-drop-out-rates/
[6] https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2024/08/five-things-to-look-out-for-on-results-day-for-a-levels-t-levels-and-other-level-3-qualifications/
[7] https://support.tlevels.gov.uk/hc/en-gb/articles/23245075846034-T-Levels-and-the-outcome-of-the-Review-of-Qualifications-Reform

2024 T Level courses - engineering and technology careers

The Department for Education lists of 9 T Levels that support a young person with progression into an engineering and technology-related career[8]. These are:

- Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction
- Digital Production, Design and Development
- Building Services Engineering for Construction
- Digital Support Services
- Onsite Construction
- Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing
- Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control
- Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing
- Agriculture, Land Management and Production

[8] The DfE lists potential careers that can follow from each T Level: https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/subjects

T Level completions and results

Number of students who completed their T Level course in 2025

The number of students enrolled on both general (+60%) and engineering and technology-related (+56%) T Level courses has markedly increased since 2024. This shows a good growth in popularity of T Levels, alongside the introduction of 2 new courses (table 1).

- Courses completing for the fourth time in 2025 have seen consistent increases in student numbers year-on-year, with both being over 1,000 students.
- A similar picture is seen for Building Services Engineering and Digital Support Services, with solid increases in numbers in their third year.
- The only course with a decline was Onsite Construction. This is not surprising given the decision to close the course to new enrolments as discussed in the introduction.
- Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing (first results in 2024) continues to see great uptake in 2025. It is now the second most popular engineering and technology T Level subject.
- Just under half of all young people who completed their T Level course in 2025 studied an engineering and tech-related course.

Table 1: Number of students taking T Level courses

T Level Course	Number of learners			
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction	207	441	686	1,022
Digital Production, Design and Development	340	687	1,034	1,472
Building Services Engineering for Construction	-	207	318	539
Digital Support Services	-	182	294	411
Onsite Construction	-	75	138	125
Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing	-	-	555	1,110
Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control	-	-	175	310
Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing	-	-	398	489
Agriculture, Land Management and Production	-	-	-	165
All engineering and tech-related T Levels	**547**	**1,592**	**3,598**	**5,643**
All T Levels	**1,029**	**3,448**	**7,380**	**11,909**

Gender breakdown of engineering and tech T Levels

As seen in the engineering and technology workforce and across other qualifications[9], engineering and technology T Levels have a low proportion of female students in their cohort (table 2).

- Only 12% of those completing their engineering and technology-related T levels were female. This is a small increase on the 9% seen in previous years.
- This varies across the different courses, ranging from a low of 4% for Building Services Engineering for Construction, to highs of 32% for Agriculture, Land Management and Production and 19% for Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction.
- Overall, 46% of young people getting their T Level results were female. Subjects with strong female uptake included Education and Early Years (95%), Health (93%), and Healthcare Science (76%).

Table 2: Gender of students completing their engineering and tech-related T Level course in 2024

T Level course	Total number of students	Number of male students	Number of female students	% Female
Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction	1,022	820	195	19.1%
Digital Production, Design and Development	1,472	1,301	154	10.5%
Building Services Engineering for Construction	539	514	24	4.5%
Digital Support Services	411	367	43	10.5%
Onsite Construction	125	114	11	8.8%
Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing	1,110	998	109	9.8%
Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control	310	285	24	7.7%
Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing	489	453	35	7.2%
Agriculture, Land Management and Production	165	113	52	31.5%
All engineering and tech-related T Levels	**5,643**	**4,965**	**647**	**11.5%**
All T Levels	**11,909**	**6,413**	**5,450**	**45.8%**

[9] www.engineeringuk.com/keystats

2025 T Level attainment

T Level attainment is high, with more than 9 in 10 of those completing their qualification achieving a pass grade or higher. The majority have achieved a merit or above, and more than 1 in 7 achieving a distinction (table 3).

- Attainment overall was lower than average for engineering and tech-related T Levels compared to the average for all T Levels.
- Attainment rates vary across the engineering and tech-related subjects, ranging from 73% merit or above for Design, Surveying and Planning, to 36% merit or above for Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing.
- Very few Distinction* grades were awarded in 2025, only 20 in total, with only 3 achieved in any engineering or tech-related T Levels – 1 in Digital Support Services, 1 in Digital Production, Design and Development, and 1 in Design, Surveying and Planning.
- Those without a pass were nearly all students who received a partial achievement, with only a handful being unclassified. Partial achievement covers students who attempted both the core component and occupational specialism but achieved only one, and students who achieved neither but completed the industry placement. These are students who may complete their T Level in the coming months.

Table 3: Attainment of students completing T Level course in 2025

T Level course	Distinction/ Distinction* (%)	Merit or above (%)	Pass or above (%)
Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction	23.0%	81.0%	95.6%
Digital Production, Design and Development	11.5%	57.6%	89.9%
Building Services Engineering for Construction	6.5%	44.5%	82.0%
Digital Support Services	14.1%	59.6%	85.1%
Onsite Construction	5.6%	36.8%	79.2%
Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing	8.6%	43.8%	79.3%
Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control	12.6%	55.5%	89.7%
Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing	10.6%	54.8%	87.5%
Agriculture, Land Management and Production	18.8%	57.6%	89.7%
All engineering and tech-related T Levels	**12.8%**	**57.2%**	**87.3%**
All T Levels	**15.7%**	**65.3%**	**91.4%**

The regional shape of T Levels

Take up of T Levels is not evenly distributed across the English regions. In particular (table 4):

- A much higher proportion of T Levels, in general (18%) but particularly in engineering and technology-related subjects (19%), are offered in the North West compared to their share of the population (13%).
- The North East, Yorkshire, and the West Midlands also all have slightly higher proportions of T Level students than their population share.
- London is achieving particularly poor levels of T Level uptake, with only 8% of both all T Levels and engineering and tech-related T Levels coming from the region, compared to 16% of the population.
- The East of England and the East Midlands also both have slightly lower proportions of T Level students compared to their population share.

Table 4: Number and proportion of T Levels per English region, 2025

Region	Total T Levels	Eng and tech T Levels	% of all T Levels	% of eng and tech T Levels	% of English population[10]
North East	776	431	6.5%	7.6%	4.7%
North West	2,145	1,094	18.0%	19.4%	13.2%
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,405	631	11.8%	11.2%	9.7%
East Midlands	735	311	6.2%	5.5%	8.6%
West Midlands	1,582	802	13.3%	14.2%	10.6%
East of England	1,127	521	9.5%	9.2%	11.2%
London	985	442	8.3%	7.8%	15.5%
South East	1,872	864	15.7%	15.3%	16.4%
South West	1,282	547	10.8%	9.7%	10.0%

[10] Based on the latest mid-year population estimates at time of writing: https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/estimatesofthepopulationforenglandandwales